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Cancer Prevalence and its associated factors in India: A study based on NFHS 2015-16

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Introduction: According to National Institute of Cancer prevention and research (NICPR), average estimated prevalence of Cancer in India is 25 lakhs in 2010 and incidence is about 7 lakhs in the same year, there were 5.56 lakh deaths due to Cancer.

Objective: To investigate the factors associated with Cancer prevalence among both men and women in India.

Data and Methods: The study is based on data from National Family Health Survey, round IV (2015-16) conducted by International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai. Bivariate analysis using Pearson's Chi-square tests and all the socio-economic, behavioural and biological predictors were further analysed using Poisson regression models to establish association between all independent predictors and the outcome variable.

Results: Cancer Prevalence among women and men in India is 170 and 280 cases per lakh respectively. Among both women and men Asthma and Diabetes emerged as the main determinants for

Cancer prevalence. Among women who smokes tobacco are 1.76 times significantly more likely to get Cancer (IRR = 1.76, $P < 0.05$) where as in case of men who smokes cigerrate 11 and above per day are 2.65 times significantly more likely to get Cancer (IRR = 2.65, $P < 0.05$). Among both women and men Non-vegetarian diet emerged to be important determinants for Cancer prevalence i.e. (IRR = 1.58, $P < 0.05$) for women and (IRR = 3.17, $P < 0.05$) for men. Among women who are exposed to Arsenic through Ground water are 1.81 times significantly more likely to get Cancer (IRR = 1.81, $P < 0.05$).

Conclusion: From the study it has been found that Asthma and Diabetes among Biological factors and Tobacco and Alcohol consumption, consumption of Non-vegetarian food and Arsenic exposure (only among women) among behavioural factors are the main determinants of Cancer prevalence among both men and women in India

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